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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

77-5740

26 JUL 1977

Maxwell Chaplin, Esquire  
Charge d'Affaires ad interim  
Buenos Aires

Dear Mr. Chaplin:

(U) Last fall, Ambassador Little advised Ambassador Hill of a planned FOCUS Argentina, an Intelligence Community review of reporting from all elements of the Embassy at Buenos Aires. The transition period here in Washington was a busy one, and it was necessary to postpone the review. I am pleased to advise you that FOCUS Argentina is now completed, and I attach the original copy of the final report for your information and use.

(U) The FOCUS Argentina Review is a comprehensive one. Ambassador Hill's letter of October 4, 1976, and his discussions with Ambassador Little and Acting National Intelligence Officer for Latin America Robert Hopkins were helpful to the review.

(U) I invite your comments on the review, or if you see any way in which we can strengthen our support of Embassy Buenos Aires, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



STANSFIELD TURNER

Attachment:

FOCUS Argentina

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FOCUS ArgentinaPart I - United States Foreign Policy Goals and Issues  
Regarding the Government of Argentina 

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NOTE: The following statement was provided by the Department of State and is based upon the April 1977 Argentine Annual Policy and Resources Assessment approved by the National Security Council Interdepartmental Group for Inter-American Affairs. It has been reviewed and updated by senior policy officers of the Department of State, Defense, Treasury and the National Security Council. It is presented here for information only and in order to provide an overall framework for the conduct of FOCUS Argentina. It is subject to change at any time.

☐ United States-Argentine relations have never been particularly close. Indeed, the two nations traditionally have been rivals more often than partners in international affairs. Over the last decade and a half, however, the areas of agreement between U. S. and Argentine aims in the hemisphere have steadily increased. Simultaneously, there has been a gradual but marked change in the attitudes of successive Argentine administrations toward Washington. The military junta that ousted President Peron in March 1976 placed a high priority on close ties with the U. S. Before the long-expected coup, U. S. officials had warned top military leaders that failure to respect human rights would have a deleterious impact on relations. These admonitions apparently were not taken too seriously, and the junta's counter-terror practices have brought U. S. -Argentine relations to the threshold of serious deterioration.

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1. (S) Because of serious human rights violations and their impact on our relations, the promotion of human rights is the major U.S. policy objective.

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## THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

13 June 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, [REDACTED] 3.3(b)(1)

FROM : Acting NIO for Latin America

SUBJECT : FOCUS Argentina, Part II -- [REDACTED] Assessment 3.3(b)(1)

1. An interagency seminar was held on 5 May 1977 under the auspices of the Acting NIO for Latin America [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Participating  
in the three-hour seminar were analysts, [REDACTED] managers, and  
policy makers (29 in all) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Comments by these participants and the perceptions  
of the undersigned are the basis for this [REDACTED] assessment.

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2. Prior to the seminar, the Acting NIO for Latin America defined the time frame and the topics for assessment. These were discussed with Ambassador Robert Hill, the State Department Country Director, and others in the Intelligence Community concerned with Argentina. Some adjustments were made during these discussions and the time frame of the assessment -- from Juan Peron's return to Argentina in 1973 until the present -- was endorsed. The following topics were chosen as the basis of this assessment:

d. Terrorism -- both right and left wing -- and violations  
of human rights;

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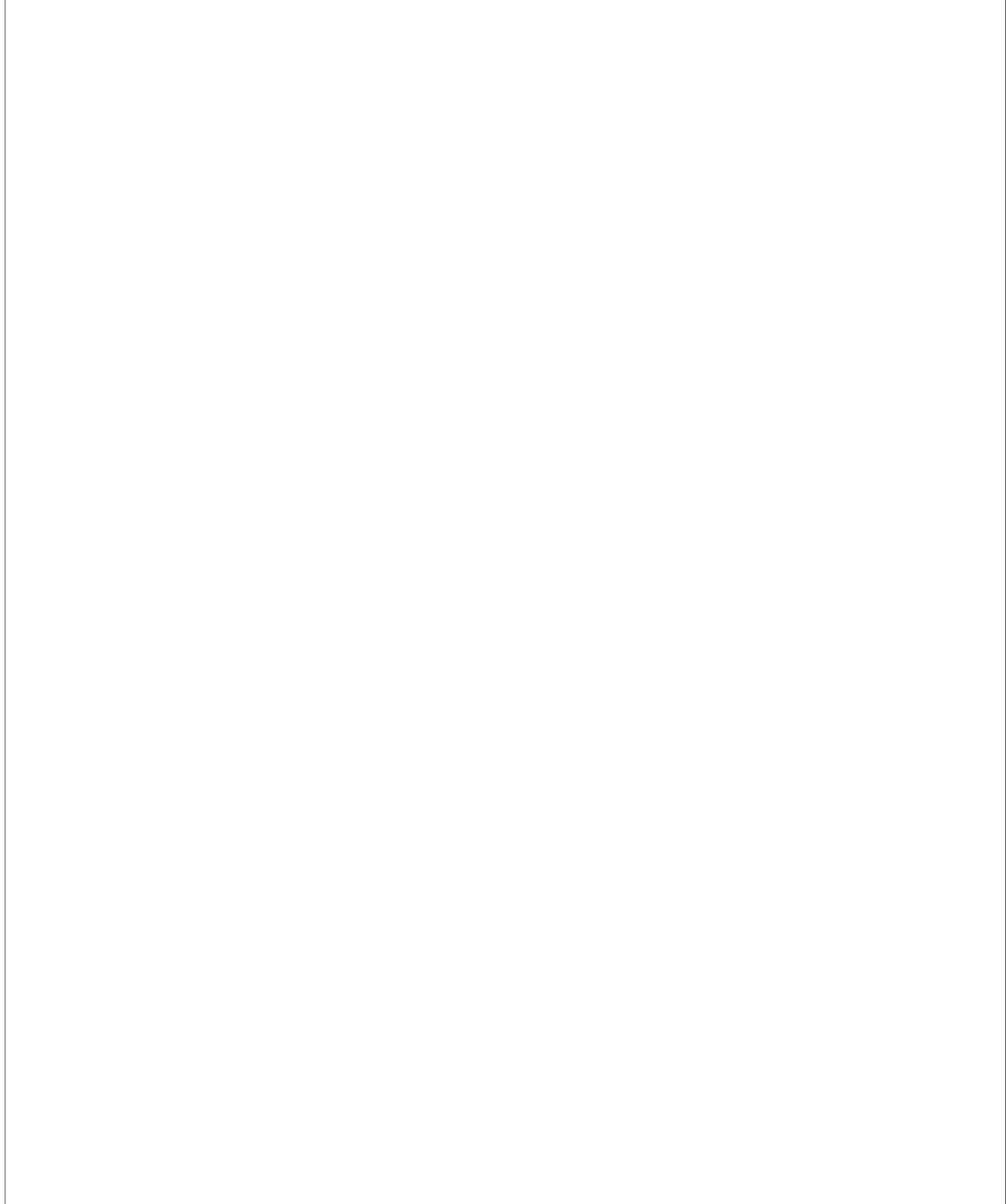
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d. Terrorism and Human Rights - Under very difficult circumstances, the mission has done a superior job in covering this area of great interest to policy makers. The [REDACTED] cooperation among

[REDACTED] organizations [REDACTED]

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[redacted] is excellent. The Department of Defense also noted that the coverage of the internal activities of the leftist terrorist organizations had been good.

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[redacted] Analysis would like to see more coverage of terrorist activity in the provinces and information on the attitudes of the populace toward terrorism. For example, terrorism and counter-terrorism are likely to lay the foundations for deep-seated hatreds that will plague society far into the future. Obviously, this is a delicate area, and information is hard to obtain.

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[redacted]  
[redacted] It would be useful to have [redacted] those who favor a reduction in human rights violations and the intellectual authors of a tough counter-terror campaign.

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